

**Virginia Board of Nursing
Guidance Document # 90-22**

**TITLE: Requests for Accommodations for NCLEX and NNAAP Testing and Medication
Aide Examination for Registration**

Only physical or mental impairments that substantially limit one or more major life activities are considered disabilities subject to protection of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). “Major life activities” include walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks.

Requests for accommodations for testing should be directed to the Virginia Board of Nursing, Nursing Education Consultant or Deputy Executive Director, and must include the following:

1. A letter of request from the candidate that specifies the testing accommodations being requested;
2. A written report of an evaluation (educational, psychological, or physical) within the preceding two years from a qualified professional which states a diagnosis of the disability, describes the disability, and recommends specific accommodations;
 - This evaluation should include a professionally recognized diagnosis of the disability and identification of the standardized and professionally recognized tests/assessments given (e.g. Woodcock-Johnson, Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale);
 - If testing was completed more than two years prior to this request, a physician or psychologist must provide a summary stating why current testing is not needed (e.g. the disability does not change over time and new testing would not reveal new information);
 - The scores resulting from testing, interpretation of the scores, and evaluations;
 - The recommendations for testing accommodations with a stated rationale as to why the requested accommodation is necessary and appropriate for the diagnosed disability; and
3. A written statement from the Program Director (or designee) of the nursing, nurse aide, or medication aide education program which describes any testing accommodations made while the student was enrolled in the program.

If the request for accommodation is granted, the information will be forwarded to either the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCLEX) or to PearsonVUE (NNAAP) or PSI Exam (for Registered Medication Aides) for their review and approval.

Candidates will be notified in writing whether the accommodation is granted or denied.

Accepted: July 21, 2009